(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
4 November 2004 (04.11.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/094658 A2

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: C12Q 1/42, C07F 9/09

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US2004/007897

(22) International Filing Date: 16 March 2004 (16.03.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/463,317 17 April 2003 (17.04.2003) US
60/487,935 18 July 2003 (18.07.2003) US

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **AMERICAN RED CROSS** [US/US]; 15601 Crabbs Branch Way, Rockville, MD 20855 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **SOUKHAREV, Serguei** [RU/US]; 7421 Mahaska Drive, Derwood, MD 20855 (US). **HAMMOND, David** [GB/US]; 4916 Ripplemead Court, Laytonsville, MD 20882 (US).

(74) Agent: **FOLEY & LARDNER LLP**; Washington Harbour, 3000 K Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20007-5143 (US).

(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,

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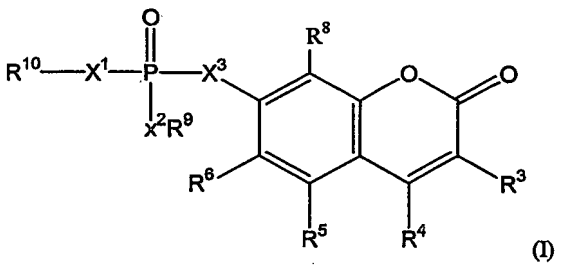
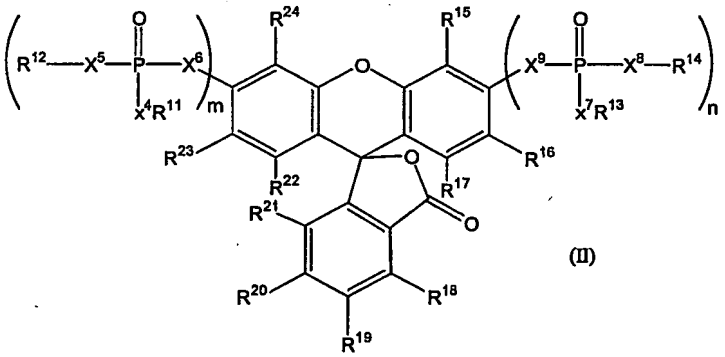
(54) Title: FLUORESCENT SUBSTRATES FOR DETECTING ORGANOPHOSPHATASE ENZYME ACTIVITY



(I)



(II)

(57) Abstract: Disclosed are compounds of the formula (I): wherein R^3, R^4, R^5, R^9, and R^{10} are selected from the group consisting of H and groups or atoms other than H, and R^6 and R^8 are halo or hydrogen; X^1, X^2, and X^3 are independently O or S; provided that R^9 and R^{10} are not simultaneously H, when all of X^1 , X^2, and X^3 are O; and of the formula (II) wherein R^{11}-R^{14} are selected from the group consisting of H and groups or atoms other than H; X^4-X^9 are independently O or S; n and m are 0 or 1 but m and n cannot be 0 simultaneously; R^{15}- R^{24} can be H or any substituent so long as the compound of formula II upon hydrolysis provides a fluorescent compound. These compounds are useful as substrates with high specificity for organophosphatase particularly human paraoxonase and bacterial organophosphorus hydrolase. Also disclosed is a method for detecting and/or measuring the paraoxonase activity in a fluid comprising contacting the fluid with a fluorescent substrate and measuring the fluorescence of the fluorescent product formed.

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TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

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